



30 APR 2002

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| In re Application of | : | |
| OHTA, et al. | : | |
| U.S. Application No.: 09/890,217 | : | DECISION ON PETITION |
| PCT No.: PCT/JP00/08391 | : | |
| Int. Filing Date: 29 November 2000 | : | UNDER 37 CFR 1.182 |
| Priority Date: 29 November 1999 | : | |
| Attorney's Docket No.: 2139.24 | : | |
| For: METHOD OF ENHANCING SALTY TASTE, | : | |
| SALTY TASTE ENHANCER, SALTY TASTE | : | |
| SEASONING AGENT AND SALTY TASTE- | : | |
| ENHANCED FOODS | : | |

This decision is in response to applicant's petition under 37 CFR 1.182 filed 11 February 2002 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Applicant has provided the \$130.00 petition fee.

BACKGROUND

On 21 November 2001, applicant was mailed a communication informing applicant that a declaration filed on 26 July 2001 did not comply with 37 CFR 1.497 (a)-(b). Specifically, the fourth listed inventor was listed and executed as "Aki MORITA" whereas the International Application lists the fourth inventor as "Aki NAKAGAWA." Applicant was afforded two months to provide either a declaration executed with the name which appears on the international application, "Aki NAKAGAWA" or in the alternative, a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 requesting that applicant's name be changed to "Aki MORITA."

On 11 February 2002, applicant filed the present petition under 37 CFR 1.182 accompanied by a declaration executed by Aki MORITA. The papers were certified as having been deposited for mailing on 22 January 2002. As 21 January 2002 was a federal holiday, the papers are considered to be timely filed.

DISCUSSION

The present petition is accompanied by a declaration setting forth the procedure whereby the change of name was effected; namely by marriage. The declaration is executed by Mrs. MORITA using her current, married name. As such, it is appropriate to grant applicant's petition at this time.

CONCLUSION

The petition under 37 CFR 1.182 to change the inventor's name from Aki NAKAGAWA to Aki MORITA is GRANTED.

The application has an international filing date of 29 November 2000 under 35 U.S.C. 363 and a date of **11 February 2002** under 35 U.S.C. 371(c).

This application is being forwarded to the National Stage Processing Branch of the International Division for continued national stage processing.



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